

Amendments to the Claims:

Amend claim 3 as shown and add the following new claims.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (withdrawn) A chemical analysis apparatus comprising:

- a reagent vessel provided with a reagent solution;
- a sample vessel provided with a sample solution;
- a reaction vessel to which said reagent and said sample are supplied;
- a reagent supplying mechanism for supplying said reagent to said

reaction vessel; and

a sample supplying mechanism for supplying said sample to said reaction vessel,

wherein at least one of said reagent supplying mechanism and said sample supplying mechanism comprises:

- a probe portion for sucking and discharging the solution;
- a probe arm portion communicated with said probe portion and moving

said probe portion to said reagent vessel or said sample vessel and said reaction vessel; and

a pump to which a pipe is connected, said pipe being communicated with the pump from said probe portion via said probe arm portion, and

wherein a narrow area having a smaller cross sectional area than a cross sectional area of said pipe in said probe arm portion is provided in said pipe positioned between said probe arm portion and said pump portion.

2. (withdrawn) A chemical analysis apparatus comprising:

- a reagent vessel provided with a reagent solution;
- a sample vessel provided with a sample solution;

a reaction vessel to which said reagent and said sample are supplied;  
a reagent supplying mechanism for supplying said reagent to said reaction vessel; and

a sample supplying mechanism for supplying said sample to said reaction vessel,

wherein at least one of said reagent supplying mechanism and said sample supplying mechanism comprises:

a probe portion for sucking and discharging the solution;

a probe arm portion communicated with said probe portion and moving said probe portion to said reagent vessel or said sample vessel and said reaction vessel; and

a pump to which a pipe is connected, said pipe being arranged from said probe portion via said probe arm portion, and

wherein a high resistance portion having a larger flow path resistance than a flow path resistance of said pipe in said probe arm portion is provided between said probe arm portion and said pump portion.

3. (currently amended) A chemical analysis apparatus comprising:

a reagent vessel provided with a reagent fluid solution;

a sample vessel provided with a sample fluid solution;

a reaction vessel to which said reagent and said sample are supplied;

a reagent supplying mechanism for supplying said reagent to said reaction vessel; and

a sample supplying mechanism for supplying said sample to said reaction vessel,

wherein at least one of said reagent supplying mechanism and said sample supplying mechanism comprises:

a probe portion for sucking and discharging the reagent fluid solution or the sample fluid solution;

a probe arm portion including a resin tube communicated with said

probe portion and moving said probe portion to said reagent vessel or said sample supplying portion and said reaction vessel; [[and]]

a pump to which a pipe is connected, said pipe being communicated with the pump from said probe portion via said resin tube of said probe arm portion[[,]]; and

wherein a connection portion connecting said pump to said resin tube, said connection portion including an enlarged [[area]] portion having a larger cross sectional area than a cross sectional area of said pipe in resin tube of said probe arm portion is provided in said pipe positioned between said probe arm portion and said pump portion so as to enable absorption of vibration energy contained in the fluid of the apparatus and to enable inhibition of scattering of a drop of the fluid which is discharged from the probe portion.

4. (withdrawn) A chemical analysis apparatus comprising:

a reagent vessel provided with a reagent solution;

a sample vessel provided with a sample solution;

a reaction vessel to which said reagent and said sample are supplied;

a reagent supplying mechanism for supplying said reagent to said reaction vessel; and

a sample supplying mechanism for supplying said sample to said reaction vessel,

wherein at least one of said reagent supplying mechanism and said sample supplying mechanism comprises:

a probe portion for sucking and discharging the reagent;

a probe arm portion communicated with said probe portion and moving said probe portion to said reagent vessel or said sample vessel and said reaction vessel; and

a pump to which a pipe is connected, said pipe being communicated with the pump from said probe portion via said probe arm portion, and

wherein an elastic area structured by a material having a lower elastic

modulus in tension than said probe and having a rigidity of elastic modulus in tension between 100 and 3000 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup> is provided in said pipe positioned between said probe arm portion and said pump portion.

5. (withdrawn) A chemical analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein an area having a large cross sectional area in said narrow area is provided closer to the pump than said narrow area.

6. (withdrawn) A chemical analysis apparatus comprising:

- a reagent vessel provided with a reagent solution;

- a sample vessel provided with a sample solution;

- a reaction vessel to which said reagent and said sample are supplied;

- a reagent supplying mechanism for supplying said reagent to said reaction vessel; and

- a sample supplying mechanism for supplying said sample to said reaction vessel,

- wherein at least one of said reagent supplying mechanism and said sample supplying mechanism comprises:

- a probe portion for sucking and discharging the solution;

- a probe arm portion communicated with said probe portion and moving said probe portion to said reagent vessel or said sample vessel and said reaction vessel;

- a first pump to which a pipe is connected, said pipe being communicated with the pump from said probe portion via said probe arm portion; and

- a second pump communicated with said pipe in an upstream side of said probe arm portion via a branch portion, and

- wherein said first pump has a higher discharge resolving power than said second pump, and said chemical analysis apparatus is controlled in such a manner as to supply a first flow rate of solution from said probe by driving said second pump and supply a second flow rate more than said first flow rate of solution

by driving said first pump.

7. (withdrawn) A chemical analysis apparatus comprising:

- a reagent vessel provided with a reagent solution;
- a sample vessel provided with a sample solution;
- a reaction vessel to which said reagent and said sample are supplied;
- a reagent supplying mechanism for supplying said reagent to said

reaction vessel; and

a sample supplying mechanism for supplying said sample to said reaction vessel,

wherein at least one of said reagent supplying mechanism and said sample supplying mechanism comprises:

- a probe portion for sucking and discharging the solution;
- a probe arm portion communicated with said probe portion and moving

said probe portion to said reagent vessel or said sample vessel and said reaction vessel;

a first pump to which a pipe is connected, said pipe being communicated with the pump from said probe portion via said probe arm portion; and

a second pump communicated with said pipe in an upstream side of said probe arm portion via a branch portion, and having a lower discharge resolving power than said first pump, and

wherein said chemical analysis apparatus is controlled in such a manner as to start supplying said solution from said probe by said first pump after starting supplying said solution from said probe by said second pump.

8. (new) The chemical analysis apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said enlarged portion of said connection portion having the larger cross-sectional area of said resin tube of said probe arm portion has a cross-sectional area which is at least  $5/4$  times and no greater than 10 times the cross-section area of said resin tube of

said probe arm portion and a length which is at least 1/1,000 times and no greater than 1/10 times a length of said resin tube of said probe arm portion.

9. (new) A chemical analysis apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said enlarged portion of said connection portion between said resin tube and said pump extends at an angle of substantially 90° with respect to a horizontal plane.

10. (new) A chemical analysis apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said resin tube of said probe arm portion has a cross-sectional area which is greater than a cross-sectional area of said probe portion.